

# W The WIPPLE



## 525TH MP BEST NCO SOLDIER COMPETITION

VETERANS LOOK BACK ON SEA SIGNAL

**TROOPER FOCUS:** PERRY SHOWS STRENGTH  
THROUGH ADVERSITY

# COMMAND CORNER

**CMDR. TERRY EDDINGER**

JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO COMMAND CHAPLAIN

This Saturday morning, Morale, Welfare and Recreation is hosting a full and half marathon. Regardless of whether you are an avid runner or only a twice-a-year jogger for a fitness test, 26.2 or even 13.1 miles is a long way to run. My joints ache just thinking about it.

In many ways, running a marathon and successfully completing a tour here at sunny Naval Station Guantanamo Bay are alike. First, both require training. A runner spends many weeks training his or her body to get ready. One's success is directly proportional to the amount of effort one puts in to preparing for the race. You prepared before you came here through your training. Now, that training is helping you to complete your job.

Second, a runner has to choose a pace. A runner considers one's ability and the race distance to determine the best pace. Smart runners know not to start too fast. If they do, they burn out early and have difficulty finishing the course. Thus, proper pace is important. Most of us have either six- or nine-month orders. Be sure you plan to go the distance. This may mean setting goals or determining how you are going to stay connected to your family and friends back home. However, it definitely means planning how you will

balance work and recreation/rejuvenation. You have to do this for your sanity.

Speaking of rejuvenation, that brings me to the third point. Water breaks are essential for a distance runner. Without water and refueling, the body dehydrates, cramps up and shuts down. I never pass up a water stop, and I walk through it so I

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can be sure to drink the water without choking or soaking myself (I never mastered the art of drinking and running at the same time). Similarly, you must take care of yourself during your deployment. Be sure to eat nutritious meals, get plenty of sleep and take time to have fun. Just keep in mind to be safe and sensible with the fun part.

Fourth, at the finish line, a runner celebrates with his or her fellow runners. For me, it doesn't matter if I do not win (which is always the case). What matters is that I am true to myself, give it my best shot and complete the course. Though I endure sweat and pain,

I am proud that I put forth my best effort and faced the challenge. When your time comes to rotate back home, you too will be proud that you kept faith with your fellow Troopers and completed the mission. In doing this we all win.

See you at the finish line!



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# JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

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# NEWS FROM THE BAY

## Day at the Bay

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Morale, Welfare and Recreation is hosting Day at the Bay at Ferry Landing Beach on April 27 from 2 to 6 p.m. Activities will include face painting, a surfboard painting contest, a cardboard boat regatta, a craft fair, water sports, performances and more. Cardboard boats must be registered at the marina by April 15. Residents interested in being food vendors can call 55371 to sign up. Bring your own lawn chairs, umbrellas/pop ups, and beach toys. The event is open to the public.

## Community Activities

MWR Community Activities is hosting two bands in April and a live sports radio show at the end of the month. Something Distant will perform tonight at the Tiki Bar from 9 to 11 p.m. and Saturday at 3:30 p.m. at the Windjammer Ballroom. The Dirty Gringos will perform April 19 at the Tiki Bar at 9 p.m., April 20 at the Tiki Bar at 10 p.m., and April 21 at Bayview at 11 a.m. The AFE and AFN Sports Byline Show will take place at the NEX Atrium from April 30 to May 2.

## Liberty Program

Unaccompanied Troopers are encouraged to check out this month's Liberty calendar to see what events are going on around the base. Upcoming activities include Woodshop Sunday, a Call of Duty tournament, a tubing trip, and night fishing. There is also free bowling every Wednesday from 6 to 9 p.m. and a free kayak trip every Thursday at 9 a.m. For more information or to sign up for events, call 2010 or email libertygtmo@yahoo.com. Be sure to like MWR Liberty GTMO on Facebook.

# SAFE RIDE – 84781

## Photo Of The Week

by Mar Andrew Embestro



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APRIL 12, 2013

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The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by Defense Logistics Agency Document Services with a circulation of 1,250.

## ONLY AT GTMO by Army Sgt. Brian Godette



# 21 and Over



By Spc. Raechel Haynes

Anyone who has ever seen a college movie or movies like “The Hangover” has a pretty good mental picture of the overt glorification of stupidity in those types of films. Some have redeeming qualities or an underlying message to them, and some don’t. “21 and Over” has a healthy mix of stupidity, crazy hijinks, and the renewal of friendship.

“21 and Over” is the story of three lifelong friends, Jeff Chang (Justin Chon, “Twilight: Breaking Dawn Part 1”), Casey (Skylar Astin, “Pitch Perfect”) and Miller (Miles Teller, “Project X”). These three friends haven’t seen much of each other since they started college, but Casey and Miller want to surprise Jeff Chang for his 21st birthday.

When we first see Miller, it is easy to tell that he is the slacker of the trio and is only interested in partying. As befits the stereotype, he is portrayed as a bit of an idiot and a real pervert.

Casey is an uptight hardworking student who already has his corporate life planned out, with no room for fun or old friends.

Jeff Chang is the surprising character to me. The surprise is that he is not as perfect as he would have people believe, especially his father. He is viewed as the stereotypical Asian - smart, hardworking, and nearly perfect at everything.

Upon arriving at Jeff Chang’s dorm, they find out he can’t go out because he has an interview for medical school in the morning that his controlling father had arranged. Casey, himself a hardworking student, sides with Jeff Chang. Miller does not, however. In his mind, a 21st birthday is a rite of passage.

Miller coerces Jeff Chang and Casey into a night of wild partying and drinking, on the promise that they will get him back in time for the interview. The first bar they stop at, Casey chats up a girl while Jeff Chang and Miller play darts. After hitting another patron with a dart, the trio flees the bar. When Jeff Chang passes out from intoxication, Casey and Miller realize that they can’t remember where Jeff Chang lives.

The ensuing misadventures are all an endeavor to find Jeff Chang’s home. The trio break into a sorority house, looking for a girl they’d met earlier who knew Jeff Chang, and proceed to anger all the occupants with their intrusion. In continuing with their mission, Casey and Miller then find the right sorority, but receive new direction from Jeff’s friend, Nicole (Sarah Wright, “The House Bunny”).

The two end up carrying Jeff to a pep rally to find Nicole’s boyfriend, Randy (Johnathan Keltz, “Prom”) and find themselves in more trouble.

The movie has non-stop adventure and despite the young adult antics, you can enjoy

this wild comedy.

Along the way, Miller and Casey find clues that reveal all is not well in Jeff’s life.

They slowly start to realize that they have fallen out of touch and aren’t as close as they thought.

This discovery gets placed on the backburner as they spend the rest of the night sorting through the mayhem that ensues, including an arrest, a kidnapping and some growing up, all while trying to get him home for his important interview the following morning.

Throughout the movie, Miller and Casey butt heads over what is the right thing to do, and we learn just how much they have drifted apart and don’t like the people their friends have become. They also realize how much they have let Jeff Chang down, to the point where he didn’t feel he could tell them how much he was struggling.

I don’t normally care for movies that perpetuate stereotypes, even for the purposes of comedy, because I feel it is very disrespectful. Even though I don’t approve of stereotypes, the characters grow and realize that they need to make changes in their lives.

Overall, I found this movie very funny if a bit stereotypical in its portrayal of college life, but the underlying message of the importance of friendship gave the story some gravity. I give this movie three and a half banana rats.



Louisville Cardinals head coach Rick Pitino holds up the trophy as he and his team celebrate after defeating the Michigan Wolverines in their NCAA men’s Final Four championship basketball game in Atlanta on Monday. (Jeff Haynes/Reuters)

# March Madness at GTMO!

Story by Spc. Chalon Hutson

Some may say there are only a few sporting events that are more exciting than March Madness, the NCAA’s five-round basketball tournament in which the winner is crowned the national champion.

Before the Madness begins every year, it is common to see office pools and other groups around America betting the outcome of the tournament by filling out brackets.

This may sound easier than it is, considering this year’s tournament was as unpredictable and thrilling as any other. Some of the most memorable moments from this year’s tournament include the unanticipated upsets by Florida Gulf Coast University, Louisville’s Kevin Ware’s gruesome broken leg, and Spike Albrecht, a 5-foot-11 freshman for Michigan who averaged 1.6 points per game throughout the season and then scored 17 of Michigan’s 38 points in the first half of the championship game.

These events make predicting the entire outcome of the tournament as close to impossible as you can get. A Science Daily

estimate put the odds of guessing the outcome of all 63 games correctly at one in 18 quintillion (yes, that is a real number). In other words, if each outcome represented dollar bills laying next to each other, one could make two round trips from Earth to the Big Dipper with its length, according to Science Daily.

These long odds didn’t stop Troopers from participating in Naval Station Guantanamo Bay’s own GTMO March Madness NCAA Bracket Challenge, hosted by GTMO Morale, Welfare, and Recreation.

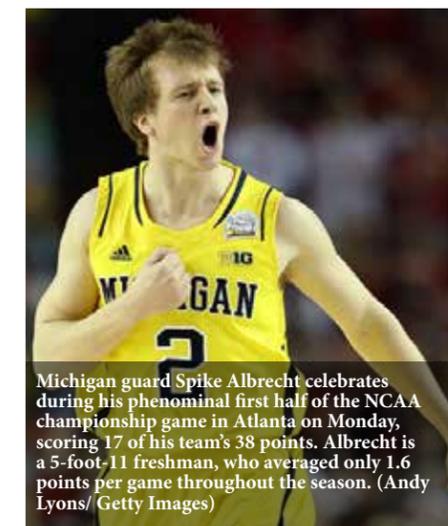
There were prizes for the first place picks in the bracket and anyone who picked the champions. It was measured by giving a point to each game that was guessed correctly, and whoever earned the most points won.

Despite the odds, of the 17 entries here at GTMO, five of them correctly picked the Louisville Cardinals to win the whole thing.

According to Jim Holbert, sports coordinator at MWR, the two winners overall, Todd Whitehead and Army Capt. Jason Corner, both earned 40 points, meaning they correctly picked the winners of 40 of

the 63 games. The winners received MWR bags and accessories as prizes.

As unpredictable as the Madness was, Troopers scored a slam dunk in this year’s tournament. Congratulations go out to the winners, and anyone looking for other sports challenges can stay in contact with MWR.



Michigan guard Spike Albrecht celebrates during his phenomenal first half of the NCAA championship game in Atlanta on Monday, scoring 17 of his team’s 38 points. Albrecht is a 5-foot-11 freshman, who averaged only 1.6 points per game throughout the season. (Andy Lyons/ Getty Images)

# 2013 Mini Masters Champion

*Army Master Sgt. Gregg Ramsdell*



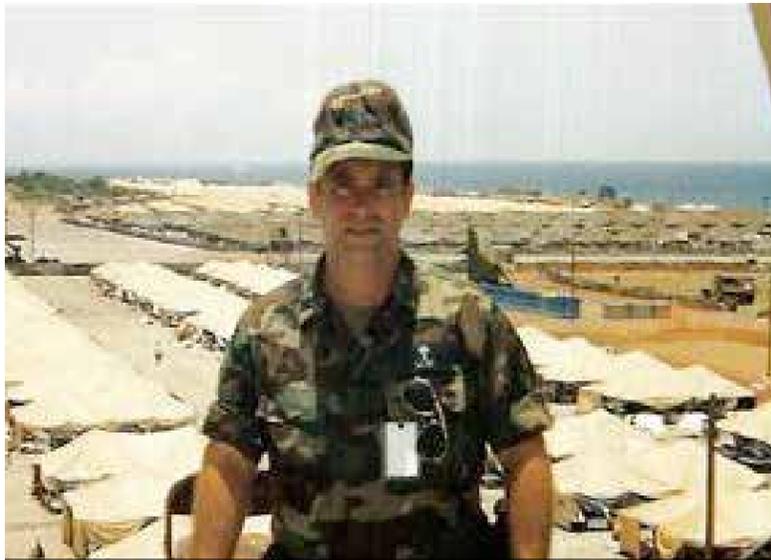
Naval Station Guantanamo Bays Moral, Welfare, and Recreation held the 2013 Mini Masters Golf Tournament at the miniature golf course on Saturday. The competition featured an 18 hole course where all scores were tallied at the end to determine the winner. The winner of the 2013 Mini Masters Golf tournament is Army Master Sgt. Gregg Ramsdell. For information on when the next Mini Master tournament will be held, contact the Denich Gym at extension 2113.

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Left, then-Air Force Capt. Daniel Zulli poses in front of one of the migrant camps at McCalla Air Field that housed Haitian migrants during Operation Sea Signal at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay in 1994. Right, Lt. Col. Zulli, now the Joint Task Force Guantanamo deputy command chaplain, poses in 2012 from the hangar at what is now Camp Justice in virtually the same spot where the migrant camps once stood. Operation Sea Signal, a mission to process a massive influx of Haitian and Cuban migrants, lasted from May 1994 to February 1996, and Zulli served as a chaplain during that mission for three months from July to October 1994. Photos courtesy of Air Force Lt. Col. Daniel Zulli.

# “Never seen anything like it”

## Veterans remember service at GTMO during Operation Sea Signal

Story by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

Before Naval Station Guantanamo Bay became known for the detainees housed in its detention camps, its facilities became a temporary home to more than 60,000 Haitian and Cuban migrants trying to reach the United States.

It was called Joint Task Force 160 – better known as Operation Sea Signal – a nearly two-year-long mission, between May 1994 and February 1996, in which service members from all five branches worked together to handle the sudden, heavy influx of migrants.

While the naval station’s landscape and mission have changed since that era, some traces of Operation Sea Signal can still be found, and there are a few people here who still remember what GTMO was like during that time.

Air Force Lt. Col. Daniel Zulli, the Joint Task Force Guantanamo deputy command chaplain, was then Air Force Capt. Zulli and had been a military chaplain for just seven months when he was sent to GTMO for a three-month tour from July to October 1994.

Air Force Master Sgt. Bret Sansone, the JTF-GTMO J22 noncommissioned officer in charge, was then 19-year-old Airman Sansone and had been in the Air Force for just five months when he deployed to GTMO around the same time as Zulli.

According to a study from the Institute for National Strategic Studies, Operation Sea Signal began in May 1994 when a U.S. policy to screen Haitian migrants for refugee status onboard ships, rather than immediately

returning them to Haiti, caused a massive exodus of Haitians seeking opportunity in America.

To further complicate the situation, that August, the Cuban government allowed its citizens to leave the country, causing another massive exodus. To accommodate the tremendous outflow of migrants and provide them a safe haven, the U.S. government decided to shelter them at GTMO until the situation was resolved.

While refugee matters are not the normal responsibility of the military, the critical nature of the situation demanded it. The military supported civilian agencies in taking care of the migrants, who stayed at GTMO until they returned to their country or were admitted to the United States.

Like the JTF of today, Operation Sea Signal saw all five branches come together to support the mission – the Navy and Coast Guard rescued migrants from the water, while the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps provided security and support at the migrant camps.

As a new chaplain, Zulli was assigned to the Haitian camps and was tasked with providing religious services and Bible studies to help them stay busy while waiting for a resolution. He eventually also started giving English lessons to the migrants and helped them take care of such things as sending messages back home.

“Most of the time, our job was to find ways to keep them occupied until the political situation was resolved,” he said. “We were to help them pass the time some way. ...

None of the Haitians wanted to be there, and sometimes they let us know that, like when they rioted.”

As a member of the Air Force security police, Sansone worked in both the Haitian and Cuban camps, brought meals to the migrants, took them to appointments, and helped keep track of them and meet their needs during their stay in GTMO.

“We were basically 100 percent in charge of their daily lives, ensuring they were taken care of from start to finish of the day,” he said. “There were tons of security issues. ... They were upset that they were here. They wanted to come to the United States, of course. A lot of times they would have protests, and a lot of times those protests would turn violent.”

Despite those incidents – Sansone said migrants would throw rocks and even tent stakes at the guards – he said the most of the migrants were good people who were just frustrated that they couldn’t return home but couldn’t go to the United States either.

“The norm was a lot of good folks,” he said. “A lot of times, we’d be in the camps hanging out, listening to music with them, playing soccer, teaching them to play softball, talking about all sorts of subjects. A lot of good folks.”

During Operation Sea Signal, Phillips Park became known as Camp Phillips and housed service members in metal huts. The pavilions there were used as recreation areas, Zulli said, and the concrete pads along the fence mark where laundry tents once stood. The camp also had latrine and shower tents, a couple of

field dining facilities, and even its own outdoor movie theater.

Migrants were housed in a series of camps, separated by ethnicity and gender, and most of the Haitian migrants stayed in tents right on McCalla Air Field at what is now Camp Justice. The Expeditionary Legal Complex – then known colloquially as the “pink palace” for its color – served as the JTF-160 headquarters. Zulli said the tents literally covered the entire field, while the hangar held offices to help process and care for the migrants.

“I had no idea that was a flight line, even though I knew that was an old hangar, because they were on top of the flight line,” Zulli said. “You couldn’t see it. It was all dirt and gravel and stuff. I didn’t see any pavement.”

For both Zulli and Sansone, their tours at GTMO during Operation Sea Signal were their first deployments, and both described it as an eye-opening experience that they won’t soon forget.

“I’d never seen anything like it,” Zulli said. “I was being surrounded by a sea of humanity with barbed wire, and we were trying to make the best of it. ... It was just a very profound time. I was brand new. I’d never seen anything like it before and haven’t seen anything like it since then.”

Sansone said his time in GTMO made him appreciate life in America when he saw what the migrants’ effort to reach America.

“I guess you realize how lucky you are when you see Haitians coming off the rafts with no clothes - butt naked, 100 percent naked, no clothes, no belongings,” he said. “To this day, I think back of how desolate and poor these folks were, and I just feel like the luckiest guy in the world.”

The INSS study describes Operation Sea Signal as “an unqualified military success” because the military was not specifically trained for migrant support missions but quickly adapted and carried out the operation well because of “capable forces, quality people, and ... resourceful leaders.”

Though Zulli said it was tough to see results from his perspective, he agreed that the operation and its success were significant to the naval station and said serving during it was memorable.

“Sea Signal was a very important time in GTMO’s history. It had never happened before,” he said. “Just as this is important now with detainee operations, Sea Signal was a critical and noteworthy time in history. I was proud to be a part of it.”

Sansone also agreed that the operation was a success because he spoke with someone whose in-laws were migrants at GTMO at the time and said they loved the guards.

“Nineteen years later, [I feel like] we did the right thing,” Sansone said. “We really took care of them.”



Air Force Lt. Col. Daniel Zulli points out what facilities, such as metal huts, dining facilities, latrines and showers, were available and where they were at Phillips Park during Operation Sea Signal. At the time, it was called Camp Phillips and housed service members deployed to GTMO during that mission. Photo by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto



Air Force Lt. Col. Daniel Zulli stands on the floor of the hangar at Camp Justice, where now building materials are stored but where offices to process migrants were located during Operation Sea Signal. The offices contained medical professionals and immigration officials available to assist the migrants. Photo by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto



Air Force Master Sgt. Bret Sansone, the J22 noncommissioned officer in charge, shows where he stood with a team of about 10 other members of Air Force security police when thousands of Cuban migrants broke out of their camps during Operation Sea Signal in 1994. Photo by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto



A Soldier with the 525th MP Battalion climbs an obstacle at the Marine Hill obstacle course during the 525th MP Battalion's best Soldier tryouts Monday.



Spc. Austin Hunsaker, a military policeman with the 193rd MP Company, answers questions in an oral board during the 525th MP Battalion's best Soldier tryouts Tuesday.



Spc. Austin Hunsaker, a military policeman with the 193rd MP Company, runs the six-mile march during the 525th MP Battalion's best Soldier tryouts Tuesday.



Sgt. Jacob DiPietro, a military policeman with the 193rd MP Company, completes the six-mile march during the 525th MP Battalion's best Soldier tryouts Tuesday.



A Soldier with the 525th MP Battalion climbs a rope at the Marine Hill obstacle course during the 525th MP Battalion's best Soldier tryouts Monday.

# 525TH MP BATTALION BEST SOLDIER COMPETITION

Story and photos by Spc. Cody Campana

While most of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay was still asleep on Monday, eight Joint Task Force Guantanamo Soldiers were being tested mentally and physically.

Their endurance and wit were challenged in a grueling two-day competition, against each other, for the chance to represent their unit at the Army's Soldier of the Year competition.

To discover who was the best non-commissioned officer and junior enlisted Soldier, each participant had to complete eight strenuous events, all of which were a challenge.

On the first day of the competition, Soldiers competed in five events. The first event started long before dawn, as the competitors took part in an Army Physical

Fitness Test. The second event of the day, which took place shortly after the APFT, tested the Soldiers' land navigation skills.

The third event of the day was a challenge of soldierly skills in which each competitor had to assemble weapons in a quick manner, perform combat life-saving techniques to save a dummy's life, and perform an operational report of a simulated enemy force.

The final events of day one consisted of an obstacle course, which the Soldiers wore Army combat helmets and body armor while completing, and a combatatives tournament between the competitors.

The second day was no easier. The Soldiers began before the Sun rose yet again. They had to write an essay by hand and then run six miles while wearing combat gear. Directly after the run, Soldiers had to qualify with their M-16 rifles on the range with only

enough ammunition to qualify once.

The final and one of the most difficult events was an oral board in which the competitors had to answer numerous questions pertaining to general Army knowledge.

The competition was fierce, as only two Soldiers could go on to represent the 525th Military Police Battalion in the next competition, the Army South Soldier of the Year Competition. Only the strongest and most determined two would go to the next round.

"Going into it, I knew Spc. [Jaime] Ibarra was the man to beat because, in our company, I do the physical things and he does the mental things," said Spc. Austin Hunsaker, a military policeman with the 193rd Military Police Company. "This competition was kind of a clash of titans. It was a mental and physical event. Even though there was only one mental event, the board, it was worth 150

points and all the physical events together were worth ... about two or three hundred points. Coming into the event, he was the man that every event I was looking at him to make sure I was one step ahead of him."

Though each participant did admirably, Hunsaker and Sgt. Jacob DiPietro, a military policeman with the 193rd MP Company, rose above their competition and were chosen to go on.

"I feel pretty excited to be able to go up to the next level to compete against Army South and really represent the 525," Hunsaker said.

For the future competition at Army South, the two chosen 525th contenders may have to work hard to eliminate any weaknesses they have if they want to win.

"It's a big mental event, so I will be spending a lot more time studying for the board,

which is a huge part of Soldier of the Year," Hunsaker said. "I will definitely be hitting the books."

Many of the competitors have never taken part in any military competition, but like a gladiator, Hunsaker relishes in the glory of each victory he achieves through a competition.

"I have a history of competing in military competitions," he said. "I just won the Bataan Death March. ... Showing up for this was just second nature. I never really train up for things or for certain competitions because I am always in training."

Though he seems to be the Iron Man of junior enlisted for military competitions, his secret in doing so well rests in a simple life philosophy.

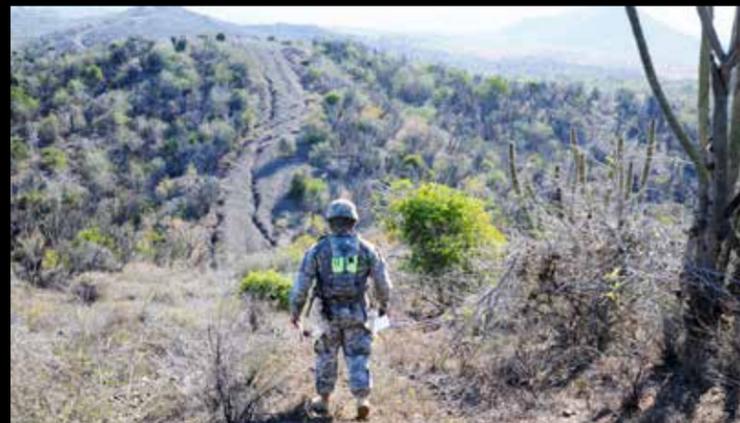
"I just always stay prepared and ready for battle," Hunsaker said.



Spc. Austin Hunsaker, a military policeman with the 193rd MP Company, does push-ups as part of an APFT during the 525th MP Battalion's best Soldier tryouts Monday.



A Soldier with the 525th MP Battalion fires his rifle during the rifle qualification event as part of the 525th MP Battalion's best Soldier tryouts Tuesday.



Spc. Jaime Ibarra, a military policeman with the 193rd MP Company, descends a large hill during the land navigation event of the 525th MP Battalion's best Soldier tryouts Monday.



Spc. Jaime Ibarra, a military policeman with the 193rd MP Company, consults his map during the land navigation event of the 525th MP Battalion's best Soldier tryouts Monday.

## TROOPER FOCUS

# Q&A

Interview by Spc. Jessica Randon  
Photo by Army Sgt. Ferdinand Thomas

ARMY STAFF SGT. ANTHONY PERRY WATCHED HIS BUDDY DIE. HE ALMOST DIED HIMSELF AND WAS SAVED BY A FELLOW SOLDIER HERE. HE SAYS, "I SHOULD HAVE HEAVY PTSD BUT I DON'T FOCUS ON THE NEGATIVE."

Q. Where are you from?

A. "Washington D.C."

Q. How many years have you been in the military?

A. "12 years"

Q. How many tours have you served and where have you been?

A. "Three times in Iraq and this tour in Guantanamo Bay."

Q. I understand you've had some rough situations to deal with in combat. Would you mind telling us about one of them?

A. "It was an I.E.D. that struck a vehicle three of my battle buddies were in. They lost control of the vehicle and it struck another vehicle and caught fire. Two of them were trapped; one in the turret and another between the firewall and the seat. The other one was on fire when we pulled him out. Pieces of his face were missing. His eyes, nose and lips were missing. Even his ears and all that stuff was gone. We performed mouth-to-mouth on him. We even performed a [tracheotomy]

so he could breath cause he wasn't breathing at that time. We called up the 9-line and had him picked up 3-miles out from where we were. We flew to the combat support hospital. I watched him die on the table."

Q. How did this situation effect you as a Soldier and a civilian?

A. "It made me much more cautious. It made me look at people different. It made me pay closer attention to detail because I learned that mistakes could cost lives. This was my O-J-T (On The Job Training)."

Q. What helped you move forward from this traumatic situation?

A. "Me living my life. When you're off duty you wanna be a normal guy. Living my life got me through it."

Q. What do you do in your civilian job?

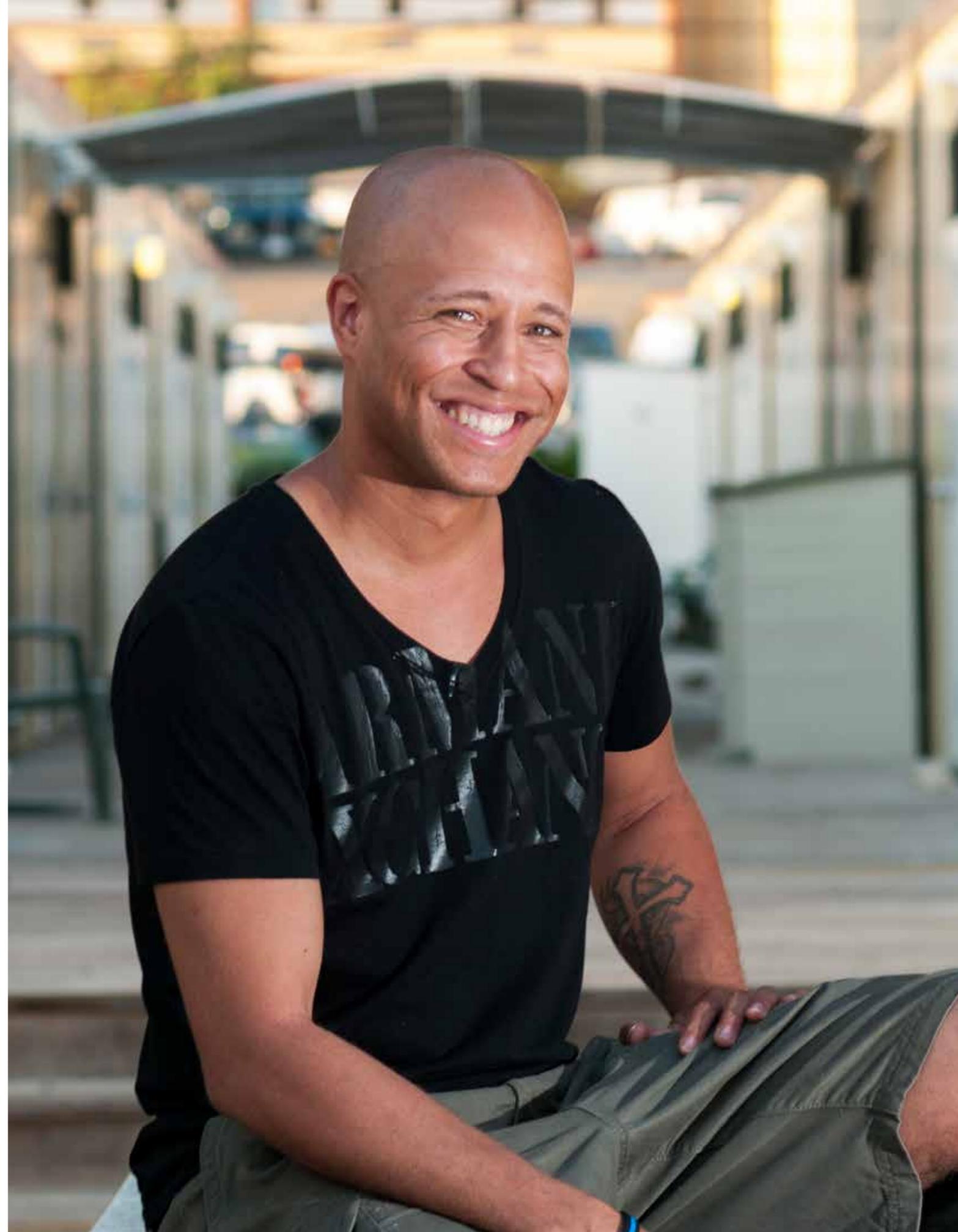
A. "I'm a police officer."

Q. I heard you were in a car accident on duty as a police officer and your Battalion Commander here saved your life... Walk me through that.

A. "I was coming from court, going through a green light down Central Ave in a marked unit. A young lady made a left hand turn on red. Some people try to beat the light and that's what she did. She t-boned me. My car spun around and flipped over in a ditch. Col. Robinson here, Sgt. Robinson back home, heard my vehicle number on the radio and was the first person to respond. He was the first person I saw when I came to. I broke bones in both of my legs, four bones in my neck and had a contusion on my head from hitting the window. I was in recovery for nine and a half months. Here I am now walking, talking and shortly here I'll be running my first marathon."

Q. How have all of these experiences affected you as a person?

A. "They've really affected more so my family. My mother doesn't like what I do for a living. It keeps me motivated to lead troops and police officers. I wanna be that old man one day that has stories for the kids and I'll be able to say to them that I experienced that. I'm living that life that most people wish they could. I'm living. I'm still here." ■



# WAR ROOM



# 2013



## NFL DRAFT

### Thu. April 25 | O'Kelly's Starting at 5 p.m.



Compete with NFL Strategy Teams in accuracy picks during the **first round of the 2013 NFL draft. Prizes awarded to the top 10 finalists.**

Draft sheets available starting Tues. April 10 at O'Kelly's. Return your picks to O'Kelly's before the first selection on the 25<sup>th</sup>, signed & verified by O'Kelly's Management Team. Keep a copy for your records. Only one winner/ sheet.

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# Cache In, Trash Out

## MWR makes cleanup fun with Earth Day-themed event

Story by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

Troopers at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay will have the opportunity next weekend to have fun and win prizes while taking care of the local environment at the same time.

On April 20, the GTMO Liberty Program is scheduled to host Cache In, Trash Out, a geocache tournament with an Earth Day twist. The event is slated to begin at 9 a.m., and teams will start from the Deer Point Liberty Center.

Like a regular geocache tournament, Cache In, Trash Out will involve teams of three to four making their way around a certain section of the base in search of designated points. Participants will obtain a signature or an item to show that they have reached the point.

In accordance with the Earth Day celebration, participants will pick up trash along at least three different routes during the tournament. Teams will win prizes for being the quickest team to reach all of their points and for picking up the most trash based on weight.

"We're going to lay four or five different points for people to find, but teams will go to their own route," Liberty Program Manager Katie Stanley said. "Each team will have a specific route. That way, everybody will be collecting trash to help do a base cleanup."

Three routes have already been set,

Stanley said.

There is a route around the Morale, Welfare and Recreation marina, a route focused on the hiking trails, and a route through the beaches.

Each team will have its own route, and Stanley said more routes may be added if

employee will go with them with a stopwatch to keep the teams' times even.

The theme for Earth Day this year is "Think Global, Start Local," Stanley said. Thinking globally made her think of the GPS units used in geocache, so she came up with an event similar to one she helped out with at Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois.

"It works out perfectly," he said. "I thought it had a nice tie to it with the GPSs. Geocaching is a worldwide thing. I felt like we pick up trash locally, we look for geocaches, and the GPS units go global."

While Stanley is a geocache enthusiast and brought GTMO its first geocache tournament a few months ago, she said she modeled the Earth Day version after the event at Great Lakes.

That event combined an activity with cleanup, while Stanley said she instead wanted to put the emphasis on the cleanup. As a result, Troopers who participate in Cache In, Trash Out will receive two volunteer hours.

"I really wanted to focus on the pickup portion as I really want to be able to give volunteer hours for it," Stanley said.

While she was unsure if the base was hosting any Earth Day-related events, Stanley said Cache In, Trash Out is the main Earth Day event for MWR.

"It'll be a fun time. Come on out," she said. "Picking up trash and having fun."



more than three teams sign up or teams may double up on the routes if there are six teams.

Because the teams on the marina and trail routes will have an advantage being within walking distance to the starting point, Stanley said the team on the beach route will be driven out to their points and an MWR



FEATURE

# The Big Question

Column by Spc. Jessica Randon

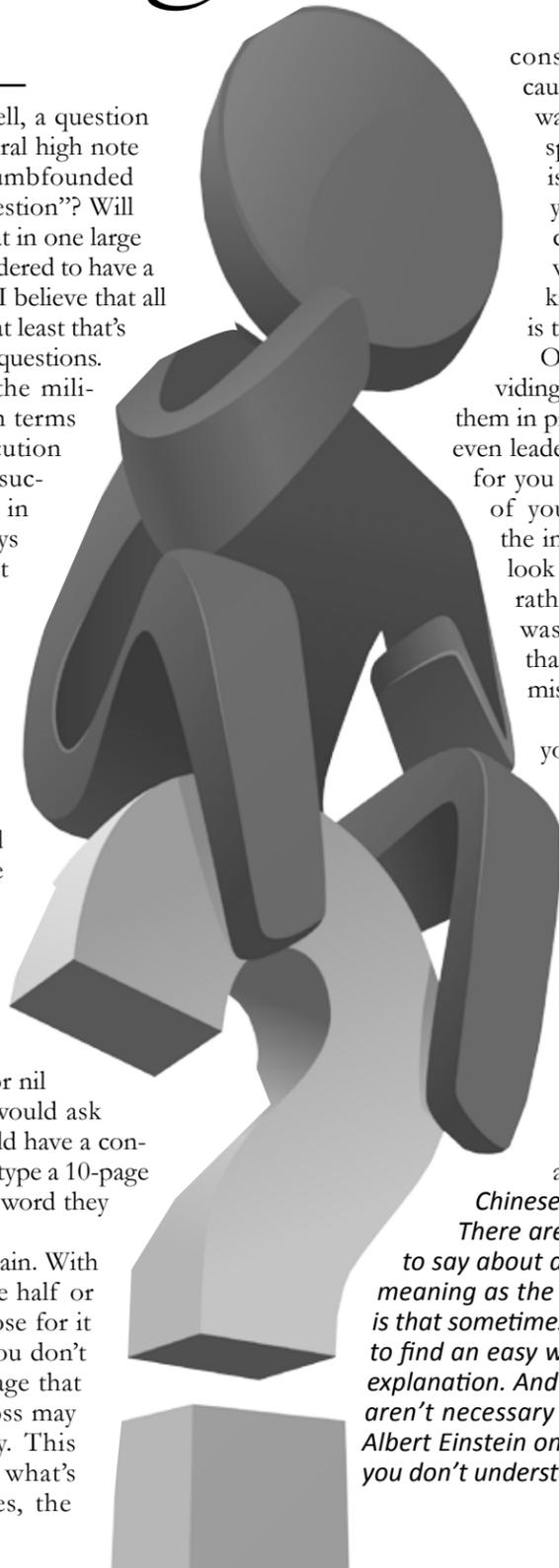
What is the big question? Well, a question itself tends to end on a literal high note and sometimes leaves people dumbfounded or inspired. So what is a “big question”? Will you marry me? Would you like that in one large lump sum? A big question is considered to have a huge effect on you or others. But I believe that all questions are big questions. Well, at least that’s the case when you ask the “right” questions.

When it comes to being in the military, questions play a huge role in terms of improvement, progress, execution of tasks and even one’s overall success. Remember, when you were in school and the teacher would always tell you to ask questions? Without asking questions, the material you were trying to understand wasn’t all that easy to grasp.

And then there’s always that one person who asks all of the questions. They ask so many questions that it becomes annoying and all you want them to do is stop asking questions. And because of that very instance, the next time you want to ask a question, you fear being “that guy” the “question asker.”

Maybe even in your military career you have come across an individual who branded asking questions as a sign of weakness or nil intelligence. So, every time you would ask them to explain further, they would have a connotation, as if you asked them to retype a 10-page research paper and look up every word they use in the dictionary.

Questions are like links in a chain. With a missing link, the chain may lose half or all of its length, losing the purpose for it being considered a “chain.” If you don’t ask the right question, the message that the deliverer is trying to get across may not be delivered in its entirety. This may cause you to misconstrue what’s being asked of you. Sometimes, the



consequences of miscommunication can cause you to waste time on something that wasn’t the issue from the beginning thus spending even more time on the correct issue once addressed. It can even cause you to assume you heard the message correctly, not knowing how incorrect you were until being reprimanded. And we all know that in the military, one perception is the whole truth.

One aspect of being a good leader is providing guidance to junior enlisted and assisting them in preparation to be leaders themselves. But, even leaders make mistakes. And it’s never wrong for you to stop and restate what’s being asked of you and ensure that you comprehended the information correctly, even if people do look at you like you’re crazy. I, for one, would rather be crazy for those few seconds than waste time for hours or miss something that could greatly affect the success of the mission.

So, basically, regardless of the question you want to ask, ask it. You never know what the answer may be. Also, you may regret not asking the question down the road when you realize you didn’t quite understand what was being requested. Or, the person requesting something of you didn’t quite explain his or her request correctly. Sometimes, you can’t depend on others having good communication skills, so you’ll have to supplement your own to cover down on their lack thereof. “He who asks a question is a fool for five minutes; he who does not ask a question remains a fool forever.” -

*Chinese proverb*

*There are many quotes that have brainy things to say about asking questions, all of which hold true meaning as the one quoted above. Fact of the matter is that sometimes asking questions doesn’t mean trying to find an easy way out but instead finding a plausible explanation. And for anyone who believes explanations aren’t necessary or reasons are never needed, well as Albert Einstein once said, “If you can’t explain it simply, you don’t understand it well enough.”*

## GTMO SAYS...

Which team crushed your NCAA Bracket and what team were you rooting for?



Spc. Ryan Dejordy-  
Florida Gulf Coast crushed my bracket, and I was rooting for Michigan.



Army Sgt. Alex Gomez-  
I was rooting for Michigan, but I didn’t really have a bracket.



Spc. Anthony Ricci-  
I don’t have a bracket because the internet is too slow here. But I was rooting for Michigan.



Senior Airman Daniel Mack-  
I was rooting for the Minnesota Gophers, but they got eliminated early on. Michigan is actually the team that crushed my bracket.

# Trooper to Trooper

## Welcome to the service

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER  
TERRANCE MAYWEATHER  
PORT SECURITY UNIT 311

So, you've graduated Basic Training – Yay. Privates congratulate privates, and parents have never been more proud. Eight weeks of war stories that will last a lifetime.

Now, take those hands that you have out in a group “high five” and put them back on those seams. Welcome to the Service. You've earned the right to stay but not much else. We now know that you're committed but not that you're commendable. There is work yet to do. There are some lessons you have to learn.

Now, out of boot and on to your first or second tour, we start to see this: “Yeah,” “Sure,” “OK,” “But, why?” Examples of things I would never say to a chief petty officer or senior noncommissioned officer. Along with: speaking to a superior seated, not addressing seniors by their rank or title, not addressing all civilians as sir or ma'am, hands in the pockets, wearing hats and covers indoors when not in an official status or ceremony and wearing vulgar or sexually expressive clothing. A few instances of lapsed military bearing that I have witnessed here and wondered how they have become so common as to go uncorrected.

My wonder led me to one of my trainings. During instruction at the United States Coast Guards' Chief Petty Officer Academy, I learned about some of the different generations that are serving concurrently in the services. We learned of Baby Boomers, Generation X, Generation Y and Millennials to name a few. The lesson was to understand the cultural differences between them in an attempt to improve



communication and understanding and ultimately to lead with objectivity. The idea occurred to me that this is “their” service now. A kinder, gentler military focused on self-importance, scholastic intelligence and psychological case studies. That explained all the behavior I was witnessing that wouldn't have been tolerated when I was a young private or seaman (both in my case).

Then, an epiphany: If we are sharing this time and existence in service and I am a senior leader, then THIS IS MY WORLD. THIS IS MY TIME. The only thing I owe YOU is outstanding leadership. We, your senior leaders, have experienced much and excelled in our selective services. Experiences not just based on our achievements but on our failures. Based on living history. We have witnessed campaigns and global events of importance. We have experienced different command climates, philosophy shifts, policy changes, good financial times, and lean financial times. You, junior Trooper, would do well to humble yourself and learn.

Here are a couple of tips:

Some may argue that you must give respect to get respect. No. This is what the weak say to beguile people into a faux respect that is short lived. The manipulative use it to pacify the weak. The United States military has created an easy way to determine who gets respect: rank. We address people by their rank/rate to establish the protocol of the conversation and as a reminder to hold them accountable to us and themselves.

But, what about my feelings you ask? The only time you should express a “feeling” is to a medical professional at sick call. When you are about to say, “I feel...” stop. Pause. Introduce systemic logic to that emotion, and then relay your message. Remember that you are engaging in a conversation with someone in service to this country who has been trained to give no quarter in combat. Pure emotion is as much a weakness in a uniformed environment as unsympathetic logic. A respectable balance must be struck.

The Greatest Generation called this the Service. We are servicemen and servicewomen. We serve our nation. We provide the sometimes deadly service of defense and deterrence. We are identified in the Star Spangled Banner as the Brave. This song that belongs to us as Americans is a song of war and warriors.

Society has succumbed to the notion that how someone feels determines the justification of their actions. The military cannot afford this luxury. We have volunteered to put our rights on hold so that others may live freely. We have volunteered to sacrifice our comfort to accomplish the mission. We have volunteered to be placed in harm's

See T2T on Page 19

	12 FRI	13 SAT	14 SUN	15 MON	16 TUE	17 WED	18 THU
<b>Downtown Lyceum</b>	42 (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m. G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13) 10:30 p.m.	The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m. The Call (NEW) (R) 10 p.m.	21 and Over (R) 8 p.m.	Dark Skies (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Escape from Planet Earth (Last showing) (PG) 8 p.m.	Safe Haven (Last showing) (PG-13) 8 p.m.	A Good Day to Die Hard (R) 8 p.m.
<b>Camp Bulkeley</b>	The Call (NEW) (R) 8 p.m. The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (NEW) (PG-13) 10 p.m.	42 (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m. G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13) 10:30 p.m.	Snitch (Last showing) (PG-13) 8 p.m.	CLOSED Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further noticed.	CLOSED Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further noticed.	CLOSED Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further noticed.	21 and Over (R) 8 p.m.

Call the movie hotline at 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information.

## GTMO RELIGIOUS SERVICES

For more information, contact the NAVSTA Chaplain's Office at 2323  
or the JTF Chaplain's Office at 2309

### NAVSTA MAIN CHAPEL

#### Daily Catholic Mass

Tues.-Fri. 5:30 p.m.

#### Vigil Mass

Saturday 5 p.m.

#### Mass

Sunday 9 a.m.

#### Spanish-language Mass

Sunday 4:35 p.m.

### General Protestant

Sunday 11 a.m.

#### Gospel Service

Sunday 1 p.m.

#### Christian Fellowship

Sunday 6 p.m.

#### CHAPEL ANNEXES

#### Pentecostal Gospel

Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m. Room D

### LDS Service

Sunday 10 a.m. Room A

#### Islamic Service

Friday 1 p.m. Room 2

#### JTF TROOPER CHAPEL

#### Protestant Worship

Sunday 9 a.m.

#### Bible Study

Wednesday 6 p.m.

## GTMO BUS SCHEDULE

All buses run on the hour,  
7 days/week, from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Bus	#1	#2	#3	
96 Man Camp	:31	:51	:11	
NEX	:33	:53	:13	
Gold Hill Galley	:37	:57	:17	
Windjammer/Gym	:36	:56	:16	
West Iguana	:39	:59	:19	
TK 1	:40	:00	:20	
TK 2	:43	:03	:23	
TK 3	:45	:05	:25	
TK 4	:47	:07	:27	
KB 373	:50	:10	:30	
Camp Delta 1	:52	:12	:32	
IOF	:54	:14	:34	
NEX Trailer	:57	:17	:37	
Gazebo	:58	:18	:38	
Camp America	:00	:20	:40	

## GTMO Beach Bus Schedule

Saturdays and Sundays only

Location	Run #1	Run #2	Run #3	Run #4
Windward Loop/ East Caravella	0900	1200	1500	1800
SBOQ/Marina	0905	1205	1505	1805
NEX	0908	1208	1508	1808
Phillips Park	0914	1214	1514	1814
Cable Beach	0917	1217	1517	1817
NEX	0925	1225	1525	1825
Windward Loop/ East Caravella	0930	1230	1530	1830
SBOQ/Marina	0935	1235	1535	1835
Return to Office	0940	1240	1540	1840

### PROTECT YOUR INFO!

## ALERT Would you recognize critical information?

Some things are obviously sensitive – our driver's license number, social security number, bank account information and credit card numbers. We protect these so we don't fall victim to fraud or identity thieves. But, what work information is critical? Remember COPP – Capabilities, Operations, Personnel, Personal data. We protect our facilities and operational plans, schedules and rosters, procedures, people and classified information. If you're not sure if something is sensitive, treat it like it is until you find out for sure. Don't post things online or talk about work in non-work places. Once information has been released, you can't ever get it back. THINK OPSEC FIRST!



# Something Distant



*Live in GTMD for 3 shows!*

FRI APR 12th  
2100 at TIKI BAR  
21 and Up



SAT APR 13th  
2200 at TIKI BAR  
21 and Up

All Ages - SAT APR 13th - 1530 at WJ Ballroom

